

# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

Volume 38, Number 6

GREENBELT, MARYLAND

Thursday, December 26, 1974

## AUDIT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS CHANGING 10% LIMIT IN BY-LAWS

by Miriam Cornelius

At the December 19th meeting of the board of directors the GHI audit committee brought in a recommendation for a change in the by-laws to permit the board more leeway in increasing monthly charges without obtaining prior approval from the membership. Submitted by the committee chairman, Tony McCarthy, he recommendation calls for changing the 10-percent limitation to "something higher, possibly based on a cost of living index." The memo was referred to the finance committee with a request for an early report.

With Director Don Volk serving as chairman in the absence of President Jim Smith, the board of Greenbelt Homes, Inc. heard management and committee reports, and dealt with member requests.

A substantial saving in oil consumption in 12 Court Ridge was reported by Manager Roy Breashears as the result of converting the heating system there from steam to hot water. The amount of fuel oil burned in that court during September, October, and November was 4.73 gallons per "degree day" in 1974, as compared with 7.88 gallons in 1973 — an improvement of about 40 percent. December and January figures are needed, Breashears said, before a valid conclusion can be drawn.

The manager had obtained figures on installing insulation and vapor barriers in the crawl spaces under the frame homes. For materials and labor he estimated the total cost at \$7,400. This would not include any crawl spaces under additions. Breashears pointed out that premium prices must be paid for work done under such undesirable conditions.

### Member Requests

The question of paying for the removal of fences came up in connection with a membership application. In this case the fence, which is not in conformity with GHI regulations, had been erected before the present owner purchased the property. Some board members felt that the cost of removal in such cases should be written into the sales contract instead of being met by the corporation.

The request of a member with a one-bedroom frame apartment for permission to build as addition a complete bath and extra storage space was considered. This member explained that she is interested in finding ways to make more one-floor units suitable for use by elderly homeowners. The board recognized that the storage space and electrical wiring in these units is inadequate for modern requirements, and that the living space is small; but they decided that the cost of such an addition, estimated by the GHI engineer at \$10,000, would be out of proportion to the total value of the unit. Director Byerly suggested that some improvements could be made, such as electrical heavy-up and removal of internal partitions. A motion by O'Donnell reaffirming the policy of not permitting additions on one-bedroom frame units was adopted unanimously.

The board then passed a motion by Director Weyel to include in future resale negotiations consideration of all work needed to bring a unit into compliance — with fence removal, storage needs, and electrical heavy-up specifically mentioned.

In response to a membership directive from the December 11 meeting, the board voted to set up a "Townhouse Investigative Committee" consisting of not more than five members, to investigate the construction and present condition of the townhouses. Names of persons to serve on the committee will be proposed at the next meeting of the board of directors, January 9.

## Long Distance Race Results

On Sunday, December 23, in a race named for Greenbelter Larry Noel, and cosponsored by the D. C. Road Runners Club and the Greenbelt Recreation Department, two records were set over the difficult course through the Agricultural Farm and Greenbelt. A total of 194 men, women and children participated in the ten and 20 mile races as well as in the 1 and 1/4 mile race from Braden Field around the lake.

Bernie Allen, an English graduate student at the University of Maryland and a marathoner, broke the record of Max White of 1:50:03 by over two minutes, winning easily in 1:47:53.2 in the 20 mile. Phil Stewart of the Washington Sport Club was second in 1:50:37 in a field of 47. Greenbelters finished 5th, Jim Isenberg in 1:59:25; 14th Alexander Barnes in 2:09:22; 23rd, Martin Greenbaum in 2:17:15 and Hugh Jascourt 40th in 2:48:23.

In the 10 mile Tom Childers of Quantico Marines won in 50:45 over a fellow marine, Don Morris in 51:44. Greenbelters finished 10th, Larry Noel III, in 61:45; 13th, David Amey in 62:39; Tom Noel, 15th in 63:04; 32nd, Milt Greenbaum in 73:23; 33rd, Andy Feeney in 74:00; Bill Clarke 38th in 74:58 and John Folk 56th in 1:41:15. About 12 women and girls ran in these longer races.

In the 1 and 1/4 mile race 89 finished. The race was won by Dan Tyler in 9:27. Among the 18 Greenbelters were the 2nd placer, Richard Duggan, Jr. in 10:21 and the last placer Richard Duggan, age 5 in about 24 minutes. A full list of Greenbelters in the short race will be posted in the Recreation Department.

## City Aids Elderly

Elderly and totally disabled renters are eligible for assistance from the City of Greenbelt. The program offers grants to Greenbelt renters amounting to 3% of the rent paid during the preceding year for an apartment in the city.

To be eligible a renter must have attained the age of 65 or be totally and permanently disabled if under 65. Also, the combined gross income of the applicant and all other persons within the household shall not exceed \$5,000.00 for the preceding calendar year. As indicated, a renter must have paid rent for an apartment within the city and the applicant must reside within the city at the time of making application.

Applications must be filed between Jan. 1 and Feb. 15, 1975 for assistance for the grant year 1974. Applications are available from the City Treasurer's Office, 25 Crescent Road and it is not necessary to apply in person. Residents wishing to call the Treasurer's Office at 474-8000 may do so and request that an application be mailed to them.

Residents are also reminded that Prince Georges County offers a similar program of assistance to elderly renters. Information concerning the County program may be obtained by calling 952-1052.

## GOLDEN TRIANGLE PLANS

The city is still struggling with the question of how the Golden Triangle might best be developed from the standpoint of the city's interests. On December 16, council received a follow-up report (#160) from the Advisory Planning Board on its preferences for development of the 57-acre tract bounded by Greenbelt Road, Capital Beltway, and Kenilworth Ave.

Among its suggestions were (1) a major hotel/motel complete with meeting and/or convention and restaurant facilities.

(2) an enclosed arcade with a number of specialty shops—shops that would be attractive to guests and visitors of the motel and yet which would be of a specialty nature to attract outside trade.

(3) commercial recreation such as tennis barn, bowling alley, indoor swimming pool, dinner theater. Again, these would be uses that would be related to the hotel/motel use but which would also draw upon outside trade.

(4) a limited amount of office space.

A city staff report prepared by assistant city manager Dennis E. Piendak was used as a basis for these recommendations. Piendak said that considerations upmost in his mind in preparing these recommendations were (1) the need to avoid projects that would generate peak morning and evening traffic and (2) the desirability for development that would provide a maximum amount of tax income.

Piendak stated that his recommendations were also based on the improbability of any successful effort to down-zone the property from its present C-2 commercial zoning.

Piendak thought that the Golden Triangle has several advantages over other local sites for a hotel/motel—convention center. It has the zoning, easy access and exit from Baltimore-Washington Parkway, visibility from the Capital Beltway, and convenience to University of Maryland, Agriculture Research Center, and Goddard Space Flight Center.

### Noise Pollution

In another report (#161), the APB recommended that the city pursue active enforcement of existing motor vehicle noise regulations and that greater noise control be encouraged at the county level and that metropolitan cooperation be sought as well.

APB, in report #162, also asked the council to pursue State regulation with regard to disposable beverage containers as an optimum solution to the problem. The Board stated that the magnitude of the problem is such that city regulation in and of itself would not have a significant impact.

## Spring Registration at PGCC

Registration for the spring semester at Prince Georges Community College will be held Jan. 15 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the Queen Anne Fine Arts Auditorium for classes on the Largo Campus, the Northern Regional Center in Laurel, and the 14 County-wide extension centers. The new Northern Regional Center, located on Severn and Montgomery Streets in Laurel, will host registration for all PGCC class locations on the following day, Jan. 16, from noon to 7 p.m.

Mail-in registration is available for the extension center classes until Jan. 11. For the schedule of classes and a registration form, call 336-6000, ext. 418 during the week of Jan. 6.

Non-credit, Community Services courses beginning in Feb. are also accepting applications. For the spring catalog of classes, call 336-6000, ext. 218 after Jan. 6.

## CITY PREPARES FOR ACTIVE YEAR INCLUDING POSSIBLE BOND ISSUE

by Al Skolnik

The city council, at its last meeting of the year on Monday, December 16, geared up its machinery to tackle a series of problems in the new year. On Wednesday, January 8, it will hold a work session to discuss the need for additional police facilities. On Tuesday, January 1, it will meet with the transit consultants who prepared the recent report on Greenbelt's busing needs. On Tuesday, January 21, it will receive an updating of the Lake Park Master Plan from the city staff and Park and Recreation Advisory Board recommendations. It will consider these in a work session and then a public hearing.

The inevitability of a bond issue to meet pressing city needs becomes more apparent with each passing meeting. Already high on the priority list is the need for funding the city's land acquisition program, for construction of additional police quarters and for development of the Lake Park. At Monday's meeting, the development of the Springhill Lake property also received attention.

The council received a site plan for the SHL property that was estimated to cost between \$80,000 to \$100,000. The Springhill Lake owners have offered to underwrite the cost of one-half (estimated at \$25,000) of the cost of two lighted tennis courts, but for the city to take advantage of this offer it would have to put up the balance of the funds which it doesn't have.

Councilman Charles Schwan pointed to other park areas which also need development funds such as the surplus land near the Parkway, the sanitary landfill area, Braden Field, and Greenbriar park. He noted that with interest rates going down, it might soon be an opportune time to float such a bond.

### Topographic Survey

The council authorized the city manager to secure bids from engineering firms for a topographic study of the main area of the Lake Park and parcel 7 (near Boxwood Village). The topographic study is essential to the preparation of any development plans. The survey will show the land as it now exists in its present state. It will locate structures, easements, underground utilities, large trees, and the varying elevations of the land.

### Mobil Gas Station

The council gave final approval to a revised site plan for construction of the new Mobil gas station at the intersection of Centerway and Crescent Road. The major change was substitution of an elaborately landscaped slope at the rear of the property for a city-suggested retaining wall. A fence will be erected to prevent the cutting through of pedestrian traffic that might harm the landscaping and develop erosion problems.

### Residential Treatment Center

The council heard an appeal from Robert De Angelis, director of "Clear Path", for consideration of the establishment of a Greenbelt residential treatment center, primarily to help persons ages 12 to 18 with drug problems. He had in mind an Odyssey House program, which has been considered successful in other areas.

He said the need was not money (there is Federal grant money available) but a place, a residence, that could accommodate about 15-20 persons. Petitions signed by over 1,000 persons supported the request. The council referred the matter to the Community Relations Advisory Board for study.

### Historic Markers

The council adopted a recommendation of the Greenbelt Bicentennial Committee to place an historic marker on Edmonston Road near the city cemetery in recognition of the Turner family farm known as "Wild Cat" which was frequently visited by Bishop Francis Asbury, the "Builder of Methodism" in America. The cost of the marker will be borne by the Methodist Churches in the county and the city would install the marker.

The council also approved the erection of another marker at the entrance to the city on Southway. This marker would commemorate the fact that the city was an original planned community constructed by the Federal government.

### Community Development

The council approved a request from the county to permit the county to utilize the city's population in certifying its population to the

Department of Housing and Urban Development for the purpose of fund allocation under the recently enacted community development and housing assistance program. It was understood that should the city at a future date decide to apply for funds on its own under this program, it could withdraw its authorization to the county.

### Appropriations

The council approved additional expenditures of \$10,000 for the Springhill Lake Recreation Center. The additional sums were needed mainly for revising parking lot plans to meet county code requirements, for extra cut and fill to alleviate bad soil conditions, and for field and laboratory soil testing services.

Also approved by council was \$2,500 to pay for the added cost of purchasing a heavy duty truck with snow plow.

### Appointments

The council received the resignation of Nino Moretti from the Advisory Planning Board and appointed Jack McKee Queen of 422 Ridge as his replacement. Also appointed was Nancy Jo Field, 6144 Springhill Terrace, who will serve on PRAB.

## CITY NOTES

Cheryl Finkelstein has joined the staff of Greenbelt CARES Youth Services Bureau as a counselor. Her responsibilities will commence immediately and will include crisis intervention, follow-up evaluations and office coverage on Saturdays.

The general crew spent several days this week cleaning drains and storm sewers and cleaning up roadsides. A couple of days were spent on road patching. The mechanics spent a couple of days repairing and maintaining the trash trucks.

The special details crew issued gas and picked up materials and supplies. Old appliances were picked up and disposed of. The crew also assisted the mechanics in repairing the trash trucks.

The parks crew had the chipper out a couple of days cutting up limbs that had fallen. The leaf vacuum was also out this week several days. Two men spent a day making Christmas greens decorations for the City offices. The City Christmas tree was decorated Thursday. Several basketball hoops were repaired in certain playgrounds around the City.

## At the Library

The Children's Department of the Greenbelt Library, invites children of all ages to come and help make a Holiday Mural in the Children's Department between 2 and 4 p.m. on Tuesday, December 31.

Drop-in story programs featuring stories, songs and fingerplays for pre-school children, ages 3-5, will be held in the Library Program Room, on Thursdays, from 2 to 2:30 p.m. during January. Admission is free. For details call 345-5800.

## News Review Deadline

Because of New Year's Eve, the deadline for submission of News Review copy and advertising will be on Monday night, December 30 instead of the usual Tuesday. The paper will be delivered on Thursday, as usual.



## GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER  
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MAIL SUBSCRIPTIONS: \$8.00 per year. Advertising and news articles may be mailed (Box 68, Greenbelt); deposited in our box at the Twin Pines Office; or delivered to the editorial office in the basement of 15 Parkway (474-4131), open after 8 p.m. Tuesday. Deadline is 10 p.m. on Tuesday.

Volume 38, Number 6

Thursday, December 26, 1974

## THANKS

To the Editor:

We wish to express our sincerest appreciation to everyone who provided their thoughtfulness and comfort to us during our time of bereavement.

Mildred Don Bullian and sons,  
Ronald F. and Anthony E.

## Let's Help Paul

To the Editor:

Of course we can! Let's make a dream of a lifetime come true for Paul Sweeney. You probably read in the News Review a few weeks ago that Paul has been selected to represent the United States in Speed Skating at the Winter Games for the Deaf, February 2 - 8, 1975 at Lake Placid, New York.

Often we are asked to contribute to worthy causes. Because of the numerous expenses involved, Paul needs to raise \$850.00 by January 1, 1975 to be able to attend the "Olympics." This is an opportunity to help someone from Greenbelt to represent the United States in an international competition.

Let's give him our support - contributions are tax deductible. Make your check payable to "The Paul Sweeney Deaf Olympic Fund."

Send contributions to:

The Paul Sweeney Deaf Olympic Fund

C/O Mrs. Robert Baker, Chairman, 5-K Laurel Hill Road, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770.

This fund is in conjunction with the United States Committee, American Athletic Association of the Deaf, World Games Fund.

Mary Ann Baker

## Defeat of GHI Increase

To the Editor:

The reason for the defeat of GHI request for an 18.5% monthly increase in operating expenses seems quite clear, at least to me. The frame home owners, such as myself, who occupy the inferior homes under GHI, are getting tired of bearing the brunt of the corporations financial crisis. If the frame homes monthly payments should continue to be increased a larger percentage than the others, in a matter of years, we will be paying more per month than the other homes.

GHI is one corporation. Why is it necessary to have separate accounts for the frame, masonry, and new homes? We are all in this together. If GHI should fail, God forbid, we will all suffer. In the future, when GHI wants to increase payments more than the 10% which they can automatically do, make it an overall increase for all of the homes. Such requests, I feel, will be given much more consideration, especially by the frame owners.

E. C. Tatum

## BICENTENNIAL '76

by William A. Aleshire

There is a search for a slogan to express the sentiments of Americans toward their country on its 200th birthday. The author of the best slogan will be given a grand tour of America, winding up at the White House. American Motors will give a station wagon to the winners. The Copernicus Society of America will donate a \$5,000 first prize. There will also be \$1,000 cash prizes for five other best slogans.

All entries should be mailed to: SLOGANS USA, Box 1976, Washington, D.C. To get involved in the Bicentennial, contact the Greenbelt City Office.

## Md. Transportation Offers Summer Jobs

More than 600 summer jobs with the Maryland Dept. of Transportation will be offered to college students again in 1975. The Department's Student Summer Employment Program provides work experience and pay in positions related to career goals, while the students furnish the Department extra manpower and skills.

Positions are available in accounting, chemistry, civil engineering, economics, electronic communications, journalism, mathematics, transportation planning and urban planning. In addition, the Department needs clerk-typists, stenographers, draftsmen, planning aides, laborers, inspectors, traffic counters and others.

Interested college students may apply through their State college placement offices, or any Maryland Department of Employment Security office. The only basic requirements are Maryland citizenship and proof of continuing education. Application deadline is Friday, March 28, 1975.

## Preventive Health Ideas

Dr. James Flynn, M.D., M.P.H., Director of Clinical Programs and Services, Division of Respiratory Diseases, cautioned that on exceptionally cold and windy days persons with heart conditions or chronic respiratory diseases may be subject to severe physical strains indicated by labored breathing, shortness of breath, and chest pain. These symptoms are hints by the body advising the person to slow down or stop a certain activity because the pace is too demanding.

Shoveling snow and ice by middle-aged or elderly persons who are not in top physical condition are prime risk activities, Dr. Flynn said, and individuals can unconsciously exceed their limits of endurance and run unnecessary risks. Whenever possible younger persons should do this work. Individuals should wait a minimum of one hour after eating before beginning any form of strenuous exercise, particularly if they are not used to it.

The seasonal annual increase in upper respiratory illness is anticipated again this year during the winter months. Minor illnesses which affect most individuals can be a major problem, however, for people with chronic bronchitis, emphysema, and other chronic respiratory conditions. People should avoid smoking and large gatherings when these infections show an increased incidence within a community. Such actions are important preventive medicine measures.

Maintenance of good general health with sufficient rest is the best defense, Dr. Flynn said, and may decrease the severity of seasonal infections. One can also reduce the chances of heavy infection by avoiding contact with people who cough or sneeze without covering their mouths.

## Police Blotter

In an unusual coincidence, two individuals apprehended by this department, refused to identify themselves. In the first incident, a subject refused to pay a cab driver on Edmonston Rd. Officers responding to the call placed the subject under arrest for failure to pay and resisting arrest. In the second incident, the driver of a delivery truck refused to display his operator's license or otherwise identify himself, after having been approached due to a traffic violation. Both subjects identified themselves after a stay at the Hyattsville Detention Center.

Two police officers were involved in motor vehicle accidents during the week. In neither accident was the officer at fault. One collision was due to a citizen failing to note that a police car in front of her had stopped for oncoming traffic which had the right of way. In the second collision, the citizen failed to clean enough ice from his windshield to observe a police car approaching from his side with the right of way. No injuries were reported, although one police car was placed out of service indefinitely with damage.

Cpl. Phillip Coombes, while on patrol, was advised that a subject had just struck four parked cars on the parking lot of the Beltway Plaza. A chase ensued, with the offender stopped some distance from the original scene. The subject was charged with several traffic related offenses.

Officer Paul Duprat, upon stopping a suspicious vehicle, observed the butt of a gun protruding from under the seat. A check via the MILES computer revealed the pistol had been stolen in a breaking and entering in College Park. The subject, a resident of Berwyn Heights, was charged with driving while intoxicated, possession of stolen property and transporting a gun without a permit.

Officer John Lann and Dispatcher Ephraim Day represented this department at funeral services for Officer Martin Granier of the Baltimore City Police Department who was killed in the line of duty. The slain officer was Officer Lann's partner on the Baltimore Police Department.

Cpl. Ernest Brumley completed a two-week drug enforcement training course conducted by the Drug Enforcement Agency National Training Institute in Washington, D.C.

The annual school patrol holiday party was held at the Greenbelt Treater. Refreshments, gifts and a movie were provided.

## YULE TIPS

by Robert Mogel, Greenbelt Fire Dept.

Timely Reminders following Christmas

Gift Wrappings: Dispose of immediately OUTSIDE the house  
Electric Gifts: Insure they have the UL label

LIVE TREES: Give them another drink of water. Remove to outside the house no later than Thursday, January 2 - sooner if its dry.

Decorative Lighting and Train Transformers: - Unplug when not in use - especially when you leave the house.

After Christmas:

Tree Collection Points: - To be announced in next week's News Review.

Collection Dates: January 2nd &amp; 3rd

The City's Tree-Eater will help remove these fire hazards for us.

There will be No Tree Burning This Year - we too don't like pollution or fire.

## Recreation Review

Holiday Roller Skating

During the Christmas holidays roller skating will be held for the first thru sixth grades from 9:30-11:30 a.m. on Dec. 26, 27 and 30 at the Center Elementary School. City Tree Decorated

The evergreen tree, next to the Police Department was decorated for the holidays by Carol Collins, the Arts and Crafts Instructor for the Recreation Department. So that the city might save on energy, Carol used pine cones, cardboard, straws, aluminum foil and tissue paper for the decorations. All citizens are encouraged to drop by the Municipal Building to enjoy the holiday decorations.

Boys' Club Equipment Turn-In

The Equipment Room at the Youth Center will be open to receive football/soccer uniforms Thurs., Jan. 2, 1975 from 7-10 p.m. Please, check your closets and dresser drawers and turn in all outstanding uniforms.

Recreation Winter Registration

Registration for the Recreation Department's winter classes will Monday, Jan. 13, 3-5 p.m.; Tuesday, Jan. 14, 7-9 p.m. and at the Springhill Lake Elementary School on Jan. 15, 4-5:30 p.m. Brochures listing all the activities and programs will be available at the Youth Center during the week of Jan. 6.

## E. A. Don Bullian

Edward A. Don Bullian, 103 Julian Court, died suddenly in an accident at his place of employment, 11th Street Liquors, on December 14. The son of the late Eli Don Bullian, he is survived by his mother, Mildred; children, Debbie, Mildred, Mary B., and Eli of the home and Brenda Salerno; brothers, Ronald F. and Anthony E.; one grandson and long-time friend, Sarah Prather. Mass was held at St. Hugh's Catholic Church on December 19 with burial at Gate of Heaven cemetery in Silver Spring.

## PGCC Offers Courses At Greenbelt Jr. High

The Extension Centers Office, Prince Georges Community College, will offer eight three-hour collegiate credit courses at Greenbelt Jr. High School, beginning Jan. 21, and is now accepting applications. To be eligible for college credit courses, a student must be a high school graduate or fulfill GED requirements.

The courses offered are: Composition & Contemporary Literature II, History of the U. S. I, Business Math I, Music Appreciation, Intro. to Philosophy, State & Local Government, General Psychology, and Intro. to Sociology.

Extension Center catalogues are available in the Greenbelt Library. Application forms are enclosed in all Extension Center catalogues, and students may register by mail through Jan. 11 for all courses at all locations. In-person registration for college credit courses will be held at Parkdale High School on Jan. 8, from 7-8:30 p.m. For further information, call the Office of Extension Centers at 336-6000 x413.

## Holy Cross Lutheran Church

6905 Greenbelt Rd.

Worship Services

8:30 and 11:15 A.M.

Sunday School 9:50 A.M.

Weekday Nursery School

9:00 - 11:30 A.M.

Phone 345-5111

Edward H. Birner, Pastor



## GREENBELT COMMUNITY CHURCH

(United Church of Christ)

Hillside and Crescent Roads - Phone 474-6171 (mornings)

Rev. William R. Murry, Interim Minister

Sun., 11 a.m. Worship Service and Church School

(nursery to junior high)

## Twin Pines Savings &amp; Loan Assn.

Greenbelt, Maryland

474-6900

## INSURED SAVINGS

Maryland Savings - Share Insurance Corporation

(An Agency of the State of Maryland)

Insures each account to \$40,000.00

Dear Member,

As you may not be aware, on January 1st, 1975 Twin Pines Savings and Loan Assn. will be converting to the NCR computer system in order to provide better service to our membership.

On January 1st you will receive your usual statement of account and your #1099 form showing total dividends paid to your account in 1974. However, your statement will not show dividends earned January 1st 1975. This will be reflected on your new passbook along with the new balance in your account. You may come in after the first of January to pick up your passbook or it will be mailed to you by the end of the month.

If you have Savings Certificates with this Association, you will receive your statement reflecting dividends paid January 1st 1975. We will not be converting Certificates to the new system until later in the quarter. You will receive notice of this change and a Special Certificate Passbook when this conversion takes place.

In changing over to a new system, some problems are likely to arise. We hope that you will be patient and we will do our best to serve you.

Twin Pines Savings and Loan Association would like to thank you for allowing us to serve you and wish you a VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR.

## NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE - DEC. 31, 1974

ST. HUGH'S GRENOBLE HALL

135 Crescent Rd.

MUSIC BY

## King's Park Stage Band

Dancing 10 p.m. to 2 a.m.

\$20 per couple

Full Buffet

BYOL

Beer Available

Reservations Required - Call C. Castaldi 474-0425



## Our Neighbors

Main Office: 2024 West St., Annapolis, Md. 21401



## Alternative Schools Emphasize "3 R's"

The Prince George's County Board of Education has moved a step closer to the establishment of three elementary schools where the educational program would emphasize instruction in the basic skill areas of reading, writing and arithmetic. Children, who would attend the schools on a first-come, first-served basis, would be placed under a strict disciplinary program and be required to meet dress standards as developed by the school staffs and approved by the Board.

By a 7-to-1 vote, the Board on December 18 approved the concept of basic Alternative Schools and directed School Superintendent Carl W. Hassel to design a program, using as a guide the proposal submitted by Board member Kathleen M. Barker on December 2. Dr. Hassel was also instructed to develop proposed administrative procedures to put the plan into effect, bringing his recommendation before the Board for its review at the first school board meeting in February.

In effect, the Board has told Dr. Hassel WHAT it wants accomplished. Now it is the responsibility of the Superintendent and his staff to determine HOW it can be done. Dr. Hassel must tell the Board which schools will be used; the cost of the program; how children will be transported to the schools; procedures for parents to use in submitting applications for their children; and other areas related to the actual operation of the schools.

Mrs. Barker's proposal suggests that the plan become operational in at least three existing elementary schools next September. According to Mrs. Barker, children at the schools would also receive instruction in art, music and physical education. Skills of basic math, rather than the "new math," would be stressed. Reading instruction will employ a rigorous phonics program beginning in kindergarten.

Other features of the Basic Alternative School include: Grouping pupils according to ability. Using self-contained classrooms, grades kindergarten thru 6. Requiring letter grades in each of the basic subjects, including citizenship marks. Emphasizing dress and appearance, both for students and teachers. Emphasizing high moral standards, respect, courtesy and patriotism. Assigning homework on a regular basis in each basic subject on a regular "purposeful" basis.

Failure to comply with the rules and regulations of the Basic Alternative Schools would be grounds for transferring a pupil out of the school and back into a regular school program elsewhere in the county.

Only Board member Jesse J. Warr dissented in the vote to approve the concept of Basic Alternative Schools. Mr. Warr said he had no objection to the establishment of different kinds of educational programs in county schools, but insisted that "if you are going to approach alternative programs, you need to approach them on a multilateral basis."

In other action at the school board meeting on December 18, the Board postponed until January 9 action on the staff recommendation to replace the current junior high school interscholastic sports program with a comprehensive intramural program next September.

## HISTORY OF DESEGREGATION IN PRINCE GEORGES SCHOOLS

(Reprinted from the Washington Post of December 1, 1974)

By Bart Barnes

Washington Post Staff Writer  
Baltimore Federal Judge Frank A. Kaufman has closed the files on the Prince Georges County school desegregation case and restored to the county school board the right to operate Prince Georges schools without his supervision.

The judge's order — delivered to Prince Georges school officials yesterday — came two years after he ordered a massive busing plan to correct what had been found to be illegal segregation in Prince Georges public schools.

In essence, said school board attorney Paul W. Nussbaum, the judge's order represents an acknowledgement that the County school board has been operating "in good faith, a desegregated public school system" and that the vestiges of the illegal dual system have been eliminated.

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When the busing program went into effect in Prince Georges in January of 1973, 33,000 students were transferred from one school to another including 12,000 who were bused out of their neighborhoods after having previously walked to school.

Despite predictions of trouble and calls for a boycott, there were few disruptions, and the boycott plans fizzled when the transfers occurred. Since then there have been sporadic outbursts of racial fighting at junior and senior high schools in the county, but virtually no major disorders.

The implementation of the desegregation order capped a struggle that had begun 19 years earlier with the 1954 Brown vs. Board of Education decision.

Then racial segregation was a deeply held tradition in virtually all facets of life in the county, and Prince Georges ran a dual system, one for its 38,300 whites and another for its 5,700 blacks. A black supervisor was in charge of the county's 24 black schools and he reported directly to the white school superintendent and to the school board, which by tradition always had one black member.

More than a year after the Supreme Court's Brown decision, in August of 1955, the Prince Georges School Board opted for a course of gradual desegregation and approved a "freedom of choice" policy of school attendance that would remain in effect for the next decade.

Under that policy, black students were given a choice of attending their old segregated schools or, if there was a white school nearer their home, applying for admission to that school.

During the school year 1955-56, the first year of desegregation for the Prince Georges schools, 65 black students were permitted to transfer to white schools. But the school board had announced it was reserving the right to deny transfer applications and 26 were denied.

Not until 1961, and then under pressure from the NAACP and the State Board of Education, did then School Superintendent William S. Schmidt permit a black student to transfer out of his neighborhood to a white school. During the same period, black students were being bused as much as 16 miles outside their neighborhood and past white schools to attend all-black schools.

With the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, federal pressure increased on the county to abandon its dual school system. In the summer of 1965, faced with a cutoff of federal funds, the Prince Georges School Board dropped the

freedom of choice policy for an attendance policy based on geographic zones. When schools opened that fall, 55 per cent of the black students in the county were attending racially mixed schools.

But it was during this period of the late 1960s that blacks began to move out from the District of Columbia to close-in suburbs in Prince Georges, and whites began to move farther out. Within five years or less, whole neighborhoods and schools changed from all white to all black. Schools that had once been segregated became integrated and then segregated again.

By the late 1960s, the Department of Health, Education and Welfare was putting pressure on the county to further desegregate its schools. In the decade between 1960 and 1970, migration from the District of Columbia increased the percentage of blacks in the Prince Georges schools from 12 to 20.

In the fall of 1970, 17 schools in the county opened with redrawn boundaries in an effort to promote desegregation, and two formerly all black schools, Fairmount Heights High and Mary Bethune Junior High, were integrated for the first time.

In the meantime, pressure continued from HEW and proceedings were begun to cut off federal funds on the grounds that the old dual system had not been completely dismantled. That threat was later dropped but then in March of 1972 lawyers filed suit in federal court in Baltimore on behalf of eight black parents seeking further desegregation of the county schools. That suit resulted in Judge Kaufman's July decision of that year directing the school board to prepare a desegregation plan by Aug. 22.

After pleas by the county that chaos would result if the plan were put into effect in September, the judge extended the deadline to midyear, but on Dec. 29, 1972, he ordered the plan into effect the following month.

Happy New Year  
from the Staff of  
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